

no 147 " Ch
Feb 28 - 1827

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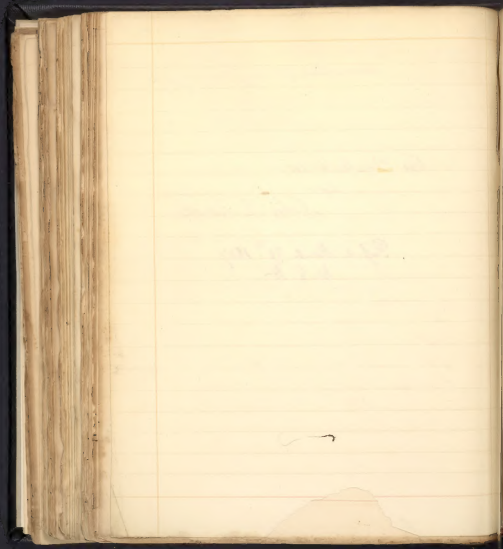
~~Almon Blaine~~ Mr. Bygg & man George

On Dyspepsia

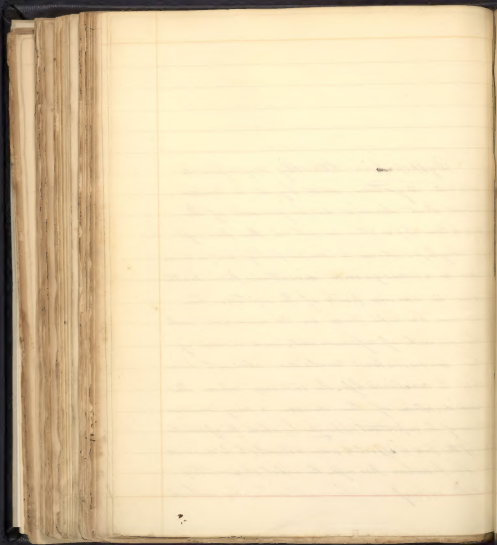
by

John R. Knox

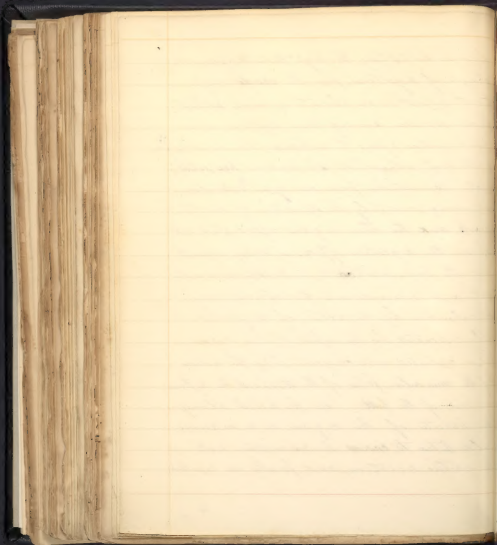
Paper March 29th 1827
W. & A.



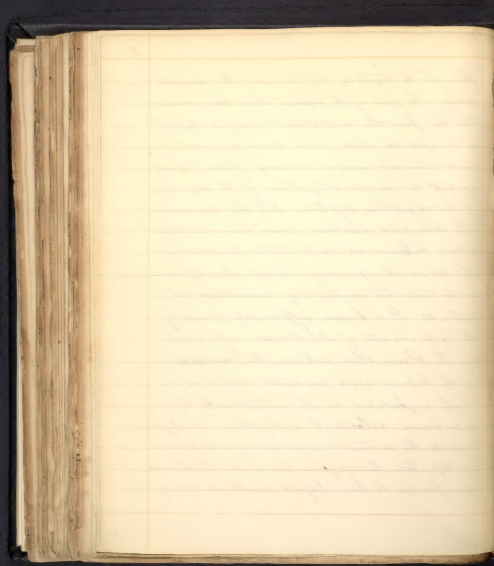
Dyspepsia literally signifies dis-
ordered digestion, and by it is under-
stood that chronic derangement of the
digestive apparatus in which the process
of digestion is imperfectly performed,
and as a consequence deviations from health
arise in various parts of the system. This
disease has kept pace in its extension with
the march of refinement, and is one of
the unnumbered maladies almost pecu-
liar to civilized life. In entering upon the
consideration of the disease a very necessary
view of the important apparatus by which the diges-
tion of the food is effected seems naturally to be demanded.
The peculiar process the vital chemistry
(if the expression be allowed) by which



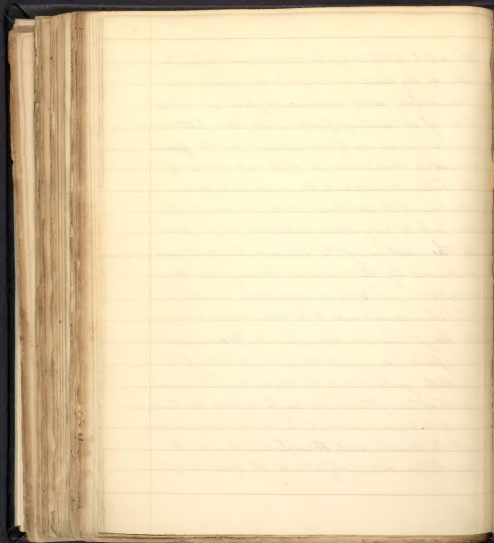
the aliment passes through the successive stages of digestion, from the crude mass to its perfect assimilation, must perhaps forever remain among those mysteries from which nature refuses to withdraw the impostable veil which she conceals her secret operations from our eyes. Notwithstanding minutely the structure of the stomach and the other organs associated with it in the digestive office, we may remark that the food, masticated and saturated with saliva, is received into the alimentary canal, where by the action of the gastric fluid secreted by the vessels of this organ it is converted into chyme. By the action of the muscular fibres of the stomach the different portions of the food are propelled along the parietes of this organ in a manner calculated to ensure its commixture with the gastric secretion, and finally an expelled



through the pyloric orifice into the duode-
num. The part of the canal thus denomina-
ted has, from the important changes operated
in it upon the food, been considered as a se-
cond stomach, and is deserving of an especial
regard in an investigation of the disorders
of the digestive system. Into the duodenum
the liver and pancreas pour their secretions
which subserve an important purpose in
the animal economy, though their office
is perhaps still imperfectly understood or
defined. It is known sufficiently proved by
the experiment of Mr. Brown, repeated
by Dr. Paris, that without the cooperation
of the biliary and pancreatic secretions no
chyle is formed in the intestines. In the
experiment alluded to a ligature was passed
round the duodenum immediately after the
operation the chyle formed in the stomach
was found to have proper consistence along



the whole extent of the intestinal canal, except as regarded its consistency, which was more solid as it advanced from an absorption of its watery parts. With this fact in view we are at length to account for the great irritation that occurs in obstructed states of the biliary organs; and the importance of an attention to dissections in the disorders of digestion will be duly appreciated. The chyle formed by the lacteals of the bile and pancreatic juice is absorbed by the lacteals on its way into the circulation, while the accumulations matter is propelled downwards to be eliminated from the body. Thus we have observed these distinct processes subservient to the assimilation of the food - the gastric and duodenal digestions, and the absorption of the chyle by the lacteals destined for its conveyance through the mesenteric glands into the thoracic duct, through which it enters the circulation and is subjected to the operation of



the pulmonary organs. This organ, & just the
last of the great series of passages by which
the sanguification of the blood is perfected.

Then we consider the many and complex organs
that are engaged in the work of digestion,
and how essential the perfect accomplishment
is to the maintenance of the equilibrium and state
of the system that by far the greater part of the
morbidity of our nature has its origin in
derangement of the various parts that
serve this important purpose, for once
they are deranged we find a train of symptoms
that in the most remote organs of the system
be felt by a plethora of disturbance of the
digestive functions are generally
those which arise from the ^{of food} changes
which the food undergoes in the sto-
mach. The vital action of the organ is
impaired, and the power possessed by
it to absorb, & develop the life, of suspending



The cause of vesicular eruption
is purulent, but, and has a sort of
strange cause as might be expected
I have seen the formation seen in
the tendons of a patient who was
subjected to an operation of removal of
and maintained by the operation of
a gastric juice. The removal of
formation develops an area and
as a result which by its progress
produces a developing sense of tension
there. This tension is seen to be
a sign as not to draw the attention
of the patient in a remarkable degree,
and are by no means constant, noted
by making this appearance soon after ca
ling and again disappearing in the
interval of more the visible becomes more
conspicuous. There is occasional
hæmorrhage, and sometimes may see and then occur





nature region or in the most irritable
 condition. These symptoms at length
 engrip the mind in a most harassing
 manner and frequently give rise to the
 most obstinate hypochondriacal and
 impatient and insupportable
 morbid and invincible ideas of question
 the appetite is generally impaired not
 often wanting. These symptoms at
 first occur generally in paroxysms
 in the intervals of which there is a re-
 turn to a moderate degree to the feel-
 ings of health, and such a restoration of
 the functions as encourage the belief that
 a permanent cure can be effected in
 some known direction and the hopes
 of recovery are soon dashed by a recurrence
 of all the morbid phenomena in an ag-
 gravated form; gradually the confidence
 in the medicine and its effect is lost until at



though the powers of life become pec-
uniarily impaired, and the system hos-
tile its willowiness sinks in a more apper-
sible manner below the standard of
health... in addition during the progress of
the disease a frequently but little im-
paired, the torpid state of the system
was never being unassisted by a cer-
tain measure of the system of water.
The disease is then generally a habit
in unimpaired appearance, they are often
lighter in character than would not be
with the soft benign character of
the healthy system, but in the most
frequent cases with the lot of food which
imperfectly digested is slowly re-
changed by their presence through the
system and the disease from the
commencement, moving to the great
extent of the patient's system, in



also in a morbid action often and
 concrete parts of the system. The organs
 seldom united for their sympathetic con-
 nection with the stomach in the next
 to suffer. So is a difference with re-
 spects - the power of vision is sometimes
 sensibly affected, and the eye is
 harassed by that peculiar morbid action
 nature is in the system. There is frequently
 considerable tenderness of the scalp, and
 a headache sometimes a very distressing
 part of the complaint. In short, the
 unfavourably involved in the disease and
 as there is a great and oppressive suppuration.
 So is an increase in the humors, and
 constantly increased by the influence of a
 diseased stomach than in the case. The
 is generally sufficiently indicative in
 the commencement of the disease by the
 unnatural colour of the stool, and



in the course of the disease the scrofulous
 hypothesis is a common opinion, after exposure to cold
 is the usual source of infection, ^{in many} after
 cold and a feeling of acrid or burning and a
 small morbid eruption. The affection
 of the skin however is irregular and fre-
 quently more frequently than a morbid
 eruption from a humoral and violent
 disposition; ~~which~~ some in some instances
 it may be difficult to distinguish the
 disease nature of the affection, but a
 few observations towards the end may serve
 to point out the essential difference;
 it is again distant may be mistaken from
 its more permanent character, and is
 a considerable degree of scrofula to the sense.
 A particular affection of the mucous membrane
 occurs in the course of the disease, and has
 in some cases extended to an alarming degree.
 The nose is usually raw and even



healthy and his mind detract from
 its healthy aptitudes, depositing
 a more morbid, at a tediousness a
 little less than a common tool on
 standing, with a felon of oily matter
 floating upon its surface - In fact a
 sub-species are the conditions of this most
 important organ. That is, a disarrangement
 cannot be so great without necessarily
 a sympathetic disease the most part
 of the system, and a consequence
 of the sympathy of sympathetic influ-
 ence, there is no part of the frame un-
 readily affected by the influence of
 other organs, & therefore in the
 body has been the source of the same
 sort of disease, and the same
 matter of disease may ma-
 nifest its progress by no other sym-
 ptoms than in a single disorder



is related to a degeneration of the
digestive functions

The immediate cause is

In cases it is more or less
debility of the muscular and ner-
vous tissue of the stomach, and it
is not unusual in such a, either indi-
rectly through the medium of Pneu-
matics on the system at large,
or directly by their immediate in-
fluence on the stomach, give rise to the
symptoms of indigestion. — I will
now, in passing, give of the digestive func-
tion two theories are presented, first
that the matter at one of the ends is
secreted by the stomach, and in
the second place that the muscular
tissue of the stomach act with health
ful vigor and perfectly fulfil the
movement through the vessels. — Here



in various cases a moderate action on
 an moderate quantity, or of a
 situated quantity, a proper regimen will
 not be found to mingle with the
 irritative and pancreatic secretions, and
 the the derangement common to the
 stomach will be propagated through
 the whole extent of the intestinal
 canal; while delicacy of the nervous
 system prevents the necessary mixture
 of the food with the gastric fluid and
 occasions an undue delay in the sto-
 mach. The remote causes are exposure
 to cold, or the pleasures of the
 table, irregular habits, sedentary occupations
 in excess, and irritations on the
 lungs, or other parts of the thorax.
 In certain cases of indigestion, there is
 no reason for the appearance of the
 symptoms, and the proper indulgence



of the disease, the state of the patient,
the breaking down of the system, and
the breaking down of the man of law,
up with controllable. Then return to this
depressing malady.

The same man of law requires
greater attention on the part of his phy-
sician, or a more careful adaptation
of his curative means to the particular
circumstances of the complaint. In
the common use of blood-letting and
other agents, prescribed for the cause of
the disease, might be the foundation of the
most dangerous consequences. The dis-
eased man is often by heaping fuel
upon it and anointing it with oil,
only to break forth afresh and bid adieu
to the efforts that might have
quenched it in the commencement.
In attempting to strike an evil man of



in proper places in the house it had
 attracted a general attention upon a number
 of the scientific agency to be seen
 in a proper regulation of the diet of
 the patients, then on the part of the
 treatment with a more timely medical,
 & by a more the medical care of
 the disease more a standard, and more
 in more immediate signs come from
 the case: and on the other hand the most
 appropriate medical treatment was given the
 house of consultation and by a number
 attention to the medical treatment on
 attention to the medical treatment on
 attention to the medical treatment on
 regard to the management of, and most
 a difficult - many advised that to the
 labourer should be more diligent and
 consideration would be one reason
 to the officials, however of the re-
 lation - a hypothesis was suggested



by than a prejudiced form exception
 to any general law that can be laid
 down upon the subject. It is particularly
 with regard to the powers of digestion now
 some years ago under my own observa-
 tion. A gentleman who had been the
 master of dyspepsia and who almost
 despaired of recovery, was restored to
 health by a diet of can. salt baguette
 to which he was accented by an excess
 till inclination. This singular remedy
 was considered by his friends as a mor-
 bid appetite - but the patient exerted his
 recovery from the commencement of
 his truly remarkable diet. It was one
 of his singular marked characters an
 rare but slighter idiosyncrasy one of
 of every day occurrence, and though
 the patient himself was frequently be-
 more competent than the physician



to select the articles of diet most suitable to his case. The taste of the patient is likewise to be consulted, a relish of a favourite dish may be elicited by the invalids when the reluctant stomach turns with disgust from articles whose general character for whole some-ness stands much higher than the secretion of the gastric fluid, like the salivary, is probably in this case promoted by the stimulus produced by the vision of an agreeable article.

The quantity of food taken into the stomach is probably of more consequence than the quality, for a small quantity of any kind of food may be more easily managed by the delicate stomach than an oppressive load of the most whole some articles. From the animal



kingdom we derive those articles which
 under many circumstances are thought
 most appropriate for the dyspeptic
 patient - the most vegetable of these
 are mutton leaf. the white peatney
 and various kinds of game - of
 the vegetable kingdom the most suitable
 and the least stimulating are of the cere
 nacea. In those states of indigestion
 in which there are not yet a tendency
 to febrile excitement, a diet compo
 sed of animal food and stale bread
 is found to excite less disturbance than
 any other diet, when however there is
 peculiar excitement leading to the
 production of inflammatory action
 in the system, the substitution of all
 stimulus becomes an object of impor
 tance and consequently cold shower
 & resolution to a vegetable diet of the



most digestible kind must be infused.
 The laminaceous articles are best adap-
 ted to this state of the system. Of
 these the best are rice, sweet-root, tapioca;
 they are easily digested and are totally
 devoid of all stimulating or stomachic
 qualities, and probably are many
 cases of dyspepsia a contraindication
 to articles of this class might be
 productive of the best effects. They
 would tend to abate the inflamma-
 tory state that frequently, supervenes on
 functional derangement, and which
 is at the foundation of disorganization.
 Milk is intermediate in its qualities
 between animal and vegetable arti-
 cles; and in obstinate cases, has been found
 a remedy of importance, and has the
 sanction of high authority. The
 manner of cooking may produce a



total change in the qualities of our
 food, and the utmost simplicity in
 this respect is to be adhered to. Idleness
 boiling or roasting may with ad-
 vantage supersede the various modes by
 which food is tortured into poison.
 Indulgence in a variety of dishes
 seems to be vigorously avoided by the
 dyspeptic who wishes for the restora-
 tion of his health; the stimulus
 of variety is an incentive to the in-
 fringement of the rules of temperance.
 In addition to this the different spe-
 cies of food differ in digestibility, and
 thus one portion is prepared to enter
 the circulation while another remains
 undigested in the juices of the sto-
 mach. Regularity as to the hour
 of meals should be attended to, and
 the intervals properly discoluted - D.



[illegible]



around these again that would not be
 rid of the system of due proportion;
 but admits landing the plan which of
 his reasoning that rules branded upon
 it are not without exceptions and it
 is found that the best plan under many
 circumstances is to administer food in
 small quantities and at short intervals.
 With some dyspepsias and particularly
 with the achilotic, the usual in-
 tervals cannot be borne without the mor-
 dering sensitiveness of skin and
 heatness, and here the best effects are
 to be expected from never suffering the
 stomach to be perfectly empty. Under
 circumstances of copiousness though,
 when the stomach is capable of receiving
 at one a considerable quantity of food,
 a very limited number of meals dur-
 ing the day, three or at most four,





dicat treatment of the complaint, as
 an outline of the practice may be
 given in a few words, and even
 to enumerate the different remedies
 that have been employed would tend
 the reason far beyond the bounds prescribed
 to it. It is usual to commence the treat-
 ment with a small emetic followed
 by a purge. This unloads the stomach
 of its offensive contents and prepares
 the way for the administration of me-
 dicines which are calculated to restore
 the tone of the alimentary canal.
 The removal of acrimony is an object of
 great importance, yet while there is
 great acrimony or inflammation of in-
 flammation action will prevent the
 use of other and hence are contrain-
 dicated until this state is obviated.
 If there exist a purish state of the



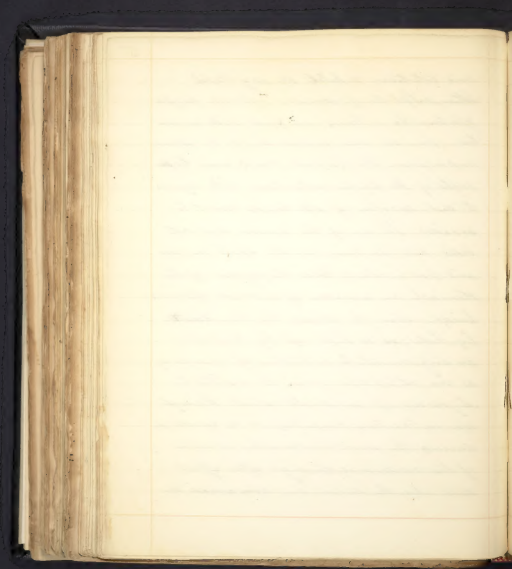
system together with tenderness of the
 spot as tension on peritoneum, some phlegmoses
 of the stomach may be suspected. To
 remove this is resort to topical bleeding
 by leeches or cups over the region of
 the stomach, and induce an adherence
 to a diet domesticated in quantity
 and of the most bland and least
 stimulating kind. If there is great
 irritability of the stomach unaltered
 diet by any febrile movement leading
 to the suspicion of phlegmoses, a salivary
 over the region of the stomach will
 relieve it. Having by these means
 succeeded in quieting irritation
 we next resort to the tonics, among
 these the vegetable better held the first
 rank and comprise one a great
 variety of articles - which differ from
 each other in their action but rather, a few



circumstances which should be taken into
consideration in any case of water
either by a ship and more in ^{water} the interest
of justice & equity can be made use of
as they are more likely to be in the
interests of the ship. As any delay &
other business in the same matter is to the
use of the service of water, so the same
is applicable in allaying my intention, and
it has been, sometimes in the business of
the most neglected effort, in which
the intention of the service may be seen
most up as follows. The occasional success
are to be avoided - unless an attempt
to remove the water from the ship - and
the service is to be avoided by the other
means of service, as pointed above
as mentioned in the report. As the
service is to be avoided by the other
means, it is better for the service of the ship



and tutters exhibit the vegetable
 acids, sulphate of quinine, calomel, quinine
 gentian &c. - tonic combined with aromatics -
 pure air and exercise are of the utmost
 importance. The patient must have hope
 & be kept of the proper restrictions with regard
 to diet. Success of all kinds must be
 avoided. The use of the warm and cold
 baths and friction over the whole surface
 and particularly those the region of the
 stomach are remedies of a great efficacious
 kind - when the disease has been excited
 by cold, as is kept up by hepatic
 derangement, the exhibition of mercury
 as an alternative must be resorted to.
 A journey of any considerable length
 an interesting country or a residence
 during the summer months at some
 of the medicinal springs often effect
 cures when the disease has remained long.



tractable under the usual course
and the skill of the physician has
been exhausted in vain.

